

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A thermal printer with a structure in which: printing is performed through drive of a heating element, and paper feeding is performed through rotation of a platen roller in a state in which paper is sandwiched between a thermal head having the heating element and the platen roller pressed against the thermal head, comprising:

a movable mechanism supporting the thermal head or the platen roller in a state of being movable in a predetermined direction; and

biasing means generating a pressing force between the thermal head and the platen roller;

wherein the predetermined direction in which the thermal head and the platen roller are made movable in a state of being pressed against each other by the movable mechanism and a biasing direction of the biasing means are perpendicular with respect to a paper feeding direction in a pressing portion between the thermal head and the platen roller.

2. A thermal printer according to claim 1, wherein the movable mechanism is a rotating mechanism that rotatably supports the thermal head about a rotating support shaft, and the rotating support shaft is arranged on a straight line along the paper feeding direction in the pressing portion.

3. A thermal printer according to claim 1, wherein the biasing means is a spring that presses the thermal head from a back side

thereof, and a pressing direction of the spring is perpendicular to the paper feeding direction in the pressing portion.

4. A thermal printer according to claim 3, wherein a center of an acting point of the spring is arranged so as to be located on a plane which passes through the pressing portion between the thermal head and the platen roller and which is perpendicular to the paper feeding direction in the pressing portion.